GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3351
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
MARR TELEPHONES
SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the telephones installed under M.A.R.R. system in the rural areas of the country are out of order;

(b) if so, the number of such telephones in Himachal Pradesh lying out of order and since when; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to made these telephone functional?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Out of a total number of 2,11,504 MARR VPTs installed in the country 44,176 are reported faulty as on 30.6.2000. Apart from these 25,932 VPTs are disconnected due to nonpayment. Therefore, 20.88% of VPTs on MARR are out of service.

(b) In Himachal Pradesh, out of 2848 VPTs installed on MARR System, 791 are lying faulty. The details are given below:

93 VPTs are faulty since last week of July, 2000
16 VPTs are faulty for more than one week but less than 30 days.
10 VPTs are faulty for more than 30 days but less than 6 months.
88 VPTs are faulty for more than 6 months but less than 1 year.
584 VPTs are faulty for more than 1 year due to faulty Base Stations.

(c)
(i) Repairs to faulty VPTs is being undertaken through manufacturers on AMC.

(ii) Non repairable faulty VPTs are being replaced with WLL, PMP and Land Line Systems in a phased manner.